

REMARKS

In view of the fact that allowable subject matter has been indicated to be present in the case, an earnest effort has been made to bring the application to issue without delay.

1. The priority claim acknowledgment in PTOL-326 is appreciated.

2. The objection to the drawing has been noted. A formal drawing which has been appropriately corrected is submitted herewith.

In the new drawing, the German labeling has been replaced with appropriate English language labeling. In addition, in FIG. 7 a box labeled as "deforming means" has been introduced and identified with the reference character 9 to overcome the objection in paragraph 3 of page 2 of the office action to double use of reference characters to designate a single element.

3. The specification has been amended at page 12 and 14 to deal with the objections raised by the Examiner. The changes do not involve the introduction of any new matter.

4. The Examiner has indicated that claims 9, 12, 14 and 15 contain allowable subject matter and the intention of this amendment is to limit the claims to that subject matter. Each of

claims 9, 12, 14 and 15 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Outright allowance of claims 9, 12, 14 and 15 is therefore in order.

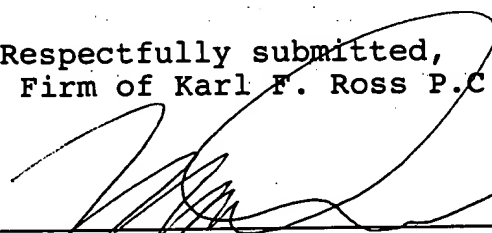
Claims 1 to 8, 10, 11 and 13 have been cancelled.

No comment with respect to the references is required.

Since only allowed claims remain in the case, this application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

5. A charge form applying the fee is an independent claim beyond that covered by the original fees is submitted herewith (LE \$86).

Respectfully submitted,
The Firm of Karl F. Ross P.C.



By: Herbert Dubno, Reg. No. 19,752
Attorney for Applicant

DB-
DATED: 29 December 2003
5676 Riverdale Avenue Box 900
Bronx, NY 10471-0900
Cust. No.: 535
Tel: 718-884-6600
Fax: 718-601-1099
Encls: PTO-2038 Form